

PROJECT 10073 RECORD CARD

1. DATE 23 November 1957	2. LOCATION Between Tonopah and Las Vegas, Nevada -- desert	12. CONCLUSIONS <input type="checkbox"/> Was Balloon <input type="checkbox"/> Probably Balloon <input type="checkbox"/> Possibly Balloon <input type="checkbox"/> Was Aircraft <input type="checkbox"/> Probably Aircraft <input type="checkbox"/> Possibly Aircraft <input type="checkbox"/> Was Astronomical <input type="checkbox"/> Probably Astronomical <input type="checkbox"/> Possibly Astronomical <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other <u>Psychological</u> <input type="checkbox"/> Insufficient Data for Evaluation <input type="checkbox"/> Unknown
3. DATE-TIME GROUP Local 0631 GMT 23/1431Z	4. TYPE OF OBSERVATION <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ground-Visual <input type="checkbox"/> Ground-Radar <input type="checkbox"/> Air-Visual <input type="checkbox"/> Air-Intercept Radar	
5. PHOTOS <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	6. SOURCE Military	
7. LENGTH OF OBSERVATION 20 minutes	8. NUMBER OF OBJECTS four	9. COURSE north
10. BRIEF SUMMARY OF SIGHTING Four disc like objects observed from a distance of 50 feet for about 20 minutes. When source approached objects, they rose and slowly disappeared behind nearby low hills with an almost unbearable humming sound. Objects reportedly left small impressions in the sand where landing gear had apparently rested.		11. COMMENTS Evaluated as optical illusion or mistaken identity of conventional craft or due to road fatigue, road hypnosis & existing conditions - half light of dawn & flat country with good reflective qualities. Psychological implications. Possible hoax.

JOINT MESSAGEFORM

SECURITY CLASSIFICATION

UNCLASSIFIED

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PRIORITY TO DECLASSIFY
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REF ID: A UNCLASSIFIED

02994

ENCODED

Initials
TIR 301757
MCH 18/2/58

PRECEDENCE	TYPE MSG. (CEN)			ACCOUNTING SYMBOL	ORIG. OR REFERS TO	CLASSIFICATION OF REFERENCE
ACTION PRIORITY	BOOK	MULTI	SINGLE X	AF	AFCIN- IC-40090	

FROM:

CMDR ATIC

SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS

TO:

CMDR
INDIAN SPRINGS AFB
INDIAN SPRINGS, NEVADA

JWF/KD

FROM: AFCIN-4E4

Jc-40327

Reference AFCIN TT Msg IC-40090, concurrent to your org and 4935th AB Sqdn, dtd 28 Jan 58, requesting checks, record surveys or info required to complete investigation of UFO alleged in your area, morning 23 Nov 57. No answer as yet. Request status or disposition. For guidance or authority re this matter, attention invited to AFR 200-2, dtd 5 Feb 58, which concerns investigations and analysis of UFO's, specifically to paragraphs 4b, 5, 6a and 6b.

COORDINATION:

AFCIN-4E4

H. Miley

DATE 20 MARS 58

AFCIN-4E3

Mr. Post

DATE 3/20/58

DD FORM 173
1 MAY 55
REPLACES DD FORM 173, 1 OCT 49, WHICH WILL BE USED UNTIL EXHAUSTED

T58-7367
Page 1 of 1 page
Copy 1 of 3 copies

DATE 19	TIME 1300
MONTH MAR	YEAR 58

WRITER	SYMBOL AFCIN-4E4	SIGNATURE T. J. Connair, Jr.
TYPED NAME AND TITLE (Signature, if required) GEORGE T. GREGORY, CAPT., USAF	PHONE 6-9216	TYPED (or stamped) NAME AND TITLE T. J. CONNAIR, JR. Major, USAF Administrative Officer
SECURITY CLASSIFICATION	1 PAGE	NR. OF PAGES 1

JOINT MESSAGEFORM

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 PARAPHRASE NOT REQUIRED EXCEPT PRIOR TO
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 NEEDED IF THE DATE-TIME GROUP IS QUOTED
 PRIOR TO DECLASSIFICATION--NO UNCLASSIFIED
 REFERENCE IF THE DATE-TIME GROUP IS QUOTED

Received
 Initials *EE*
 Time *052100*
 Checked By *EE*

PRECEDENCE		TYPE MSG (Check)			ACCOUNTING SYMBOL	ORIG. OR REFERS TO	CLASSIFICATION OF REFERENCE
ACTION	PRIORITY	BOOK	MULTI	SINGLE <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	AF	X	X
INFO							

FROM:	CMDR ATIC	SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS
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TO:	CMDR INDIAN SPRINGS AFB INDIAN SPRINGS, NEVADA	<i>Planned</i>
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FROM: AFCIN-4E4

IC 40405

Previous requests for checks and investigation from AF Chief of Staff, Intelligence is subject. Reference two requests, repeat two requests, for check as to any aircraft, missile, helicopters or other test flights or operations in general area thirty(30) miles west of Tonopah at approximately 0630 hours morning of 23 Nov 57, Cite TTMsgs AFCIN-4E, IC-40090 DTD 23 Jan 58 and IC-40327 DTD 19 Mar 58. Careful search shows no reply. Request the status or disposition of this matter as soon as possible. Also, if possible either one or both of your replies inadvertently sent to wrong address.

For authority and guidance re this matter Ref specific paragraphs 1,4b,5 and 6b.

DEGRADED AT 3 YEAR INTERVALS;
DECLASSIFIED AFTER 12 YEARS.
DD FORM 173 1 MAY 55

T58-9313
Page 1 of 1 page
Copy 1 of 3 Copies

DATE	5	TIME	1930 ±
MONTH	April	YEAR	58

WRITER	SYMBOL AFCIN-4E4	SIGNATURE <i>J. T. Lehman</i>	
TYPED NAME AND TITLE George T. Gregory, Capt. USAF	TYPED (or stamped) NAME AND TITLE J. T. Lehman, Capt. Lt, USAF ATIC Duty Officer		
PHONE 69216	PAGE NR. 1	NR. OF PAGES 1	RELEASER
SECURITY CLASSIFICATION	UNCLASSIFIED		

MESSAGES RE ACTION TAKEN TO
CONTRACT DR. FITTS FOR
ANALYSIS OF REPORTS ON
INCIDENT.....

TO CAPT. G. GREGORY BEA/TURU J. NOHAKER AB
FROM 4BA/G. S. SIMPSON JR.

R/24/1833Z

S-195

~~UNCLASSIFIED~~

24/3/82 1908Z

REF. YOUR INFORMAL NOTES ON DR. FITTS, HE CALLED LAST WEEK AND
REPORTED HE WOULD REVIEW THE DOCUMENT LAST THURSDAY OR FRIDAY FOR
SURE. ~~HE FAILED TO SHOW UP.~~

IN VIEW OF THE ALREADY STICKY SITUATION ON THIS MATTER - PLUS ~~MY~~
PERSONAL OPINION DR. FITTS HAS EVERY INTENTION OF REVICING DOCUMENT
DOUBT IF WE HAVE ANY PEOPLE ON THE STAFF WHO COULD BE BRIEFED IN FAST
ENOUGH TO THE OVER-ALL PROBLEM TO BE EFFECTIVE.

END

MARCH 24/1908Z/BD

ORIGNAL NOTE TO GUS FROM LARRY 23 JAN 53
CLASSIFIED

REFERENCE PCS-25 AND PPS-100.
DID DR PAUL M FITTS FROM OSU WORK ON SPEC REPORT NR 14 AND IF SO, DO
YOU STILL HAVE HIM UNDER CONSULTANT CONTRACT

END

*Call Paul M. Fitts
OSU
1953*

TO CAPT. G. GREGORY 4E4/THRU L. G. WHITCHER 4B3
FROM 4B4/G. S. SIMPSON, JR.

R/19/1805Z.

G-121

/U N C L A S S I F I E D /

13 FEB 53 1940z

I FINALLY CONTACTED DR. P. FITTS AT 12.45 P.M. TODAY. HE AGREES TO
COME OVER TO TAKE A LOOK NEXT WEEK, POSSIBLY TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 25.
WILL ADVISE AFTER HIS FIRST VISIT AND REVIEW WHAT HE INTENDS DOING.

IN THE MEANTIME, WE ARE PREPARING LETTER FOR GEYER. HENCE, WE ARE
ALL LINED UP.

END

FEB 19/1937Z/AW

*Agreement by
Dr. Fitts to
undertake review
and analysis —*

ITEM 8.

CAPT GREGORY ASKED ME TO PASS ON THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION TO YOU.

A. REQUEST YOUR DISCREET INTERCESSION IN ATIC'S BEHALF RE FITTS ANALYSIS OF A UFO PSYCHO CASE SUBMITTED TO HIM 6 WEEKS AGO.

B. REQUEST REPEATED CONTACTS WITH HIM OR HIS PRIVATE SECRETARY FOR THE LAST TWO WEEKS GIVE US IMPRESSION OF "RUN-AROUND".

C. MATTER NOW HAS REQUESTED XXXX REACHED INTEREST OF HIGH LEVEL WASHINGTON GROUPS.

D. FIRST CONTACT WITH FITTS - 4 WEEKS AGO - STATED HE WOULD BE BUSY AND IN CONFERENCES FOR TWO WEEKS. IN VIEW OF FACT THAT IT WAS UNDESIRABLE TO FIND SOMEONE ELSE, CONSIDERED OKAY TO LOSE THE TWO WEEKS.

E. LAST WEEK CALLED EVERY DAY WITH ASSURANCES THAT HE "FITTS" WOULD GIVE US AN ORAL REPORT THE NEXT DAY AND HE WOULD CONTACT US. YET NO ATTEMPT MADE TO CONTACT THE CENTER. WE HAD TO CALL HIM NEAR THE END OF THE WORKING DAY WITH THE SAME ANSWER "SORRY, ETC., ETC., WILL GIVE YOU A CALL".

F. AS A REPRESENTATIVE OF THE INSTITUTE, COULD YOU CONTACT HIM AGAIN AND FIND OUT WHETHER OR NOT HE OR ANY OF HIS COLLEAGUES CAN DO IT. IF THE ANSWER IS "NO", DO YOU HAVE SOMEONE WITHIN THE ORGANIZATION WHO COULD HANDLE THIS FOR US? ■■■■■

~~DID U BREAK. I AM STILL WITH U. NO DIDNT BREAK. SOUNDED AS THO IT WAS THE OPERATOR BREAKING. SET 13 SW HI YR TWO K~~

~~AND DO U READ THIS OKAY GA
READ & FINE GOT LAST O~~

~~IS THIS THE BY OPR~~

~~5 MIN PLS THIS ISD Y OPR SOMEONE BREAKING IN ON MY CONNECTION
TO CL 233~~

~~YES MIN PLS V
CL CIVXXX GUTVEE 233 PLS ACK MIN V
THIS IS CL 233~~

~~ME AGAIN SET 14 SW NI YR TWO K~~

~~AND NOW DO U RED ME K
I READ & FINE GOT LINE 4 OF F. LAST WORD WAS FOR
CAPLS~~

~~H/W LINE FOUR AGN.~~

THE ORGANIZATION WHO COULD HANDLE THIS FOR US. WE HAVE TO GET SOME REPLY INTO WASHINGTON TOMORROW TO OUR HEADQUARTERS.

Conversation between TCKX
operator - due to break in
conference - message -

GA THE CAPT IS HERE

HOLD ON ONE MIN PLS. GUS IS ON HIS WAY HERE.
FIRE WHEN READY THEN GA

221153Z 15 JUN 62

THIS IS GUS TO GREGORY CAPT GEORGE THAT IS

REVIEWING THE LOCAL NEWSPAPER I NOTICED A STATEMENT THAT DR FITTS IS PLANNING TO LEAVE THE COUNTRY C VACATION I THINK ON APRIL 4 TH. I AM STILL HOLDING THE SENSITIVE DOCUMENT AND HAVE HEARD NO WORD FROM FITTS AS YET THIS WEEK SUGGEST THEREFORE THAT IF YOU RETAIN ANY HOPES AT ALL OF GETTING HIS REVIEW THAT YOU CALL HIM AND TELL HIM YOU WILL SHOW UP AT EITHER HIS OFFICE OR HOME WITH THE DOCUMENT AND JUST ASK HIM TO NAME THE DAY AND HOUR

IF THIS SEEMS SOUND I WILL RETURN THE DOCUMENT IN THE POUCH TODAY SO THAT NO NEED FOR YOU TO STOP HERE TO GET IT GAPLS

GUS FROM CAPT GREGORY.

HAVE CONTACTED PROF FITT, S OFFICE EVERY DAY FOR THE LAST TWO WEEKS. YESTERDAY I RECEIVED ASSURANCE FROM HIS SECRETARY THAT HE WOULD AT LEAST REVIEW THE DOCUMENT SOMETIME TODAY.

SOME BACKGROUND REGARDING THIS

SUGGESTED TO HIS SECRETARY THAT SHE PLACE THE DOCUMENT IN HIS HANDS AND THAT HE MERELY TAKE A "PEEK" AT IT. APPARENTLY EITHER THE SECRETARY OR FITTS THINKS THIS IS A VOLUMINOUS DOCUMENT WHICH WILL REQUIRE SOME TIME. ACTUALLY ONLY THREE PAGES. BELIEVE HE CAN DO IT IN A HALF HOUR. WAS UNDER THE IMPRESSION THAT THE DOCUMENT WAS IN FITT, S OFFICE. IF WHAT YOU SAY IS TRUE, REGARDING DOC, HE HAS NEVER SEEN IT. THEREFORE, RECOMMEND IT BE HAND CARRIED TO HIS OFFICE AND DEMAND RPT DEMAND THAT IT BE PLACED INTO HIS HANDS ASAP. LETS TRY THIS WAY, GUS. /AND SEE WHAT HAPPENS/

GA

FROM A SECURITY VIEWPOINT WE HAVE HELD THIS DOCUMENT HERE AND HAVE MADE NO EFFORT TO DELIVER IT TO FITTS BECAUSE OF THE DISCREET HANDLING SITUATION PLUS THA THE FACT IT IS MARKED CONFIDENTIAL AND FINALLY SIC SINCE WE HAVE NO IDEA OF HIS CAPABILITY TO STORE IT

JUST CANT FIND IT IN MY SOUL TO DEMAND ANYTHING OF FITTS AM LEARY THAT HE WOULD INFORM ME TO DROP DEAD ALSO SINCE THIS HAS BECOME SO MESSY WE AS THE INSTITUTE WANT TO BE SURE WE IRRITATE NEITHER YOU NOR FITTS BUT BOY WE ARE IN MIDDLE AS I AM SURE U ARE

I SUSPECT THAT FROM AN OVERALL STANDPOINT INCLUDING TRANSMISSION TIME

SONALLY

I HAVE NO POSITION TO DEMAND A DARN THING
GAPLS

OKAY GUSS, YOUR POINTS ARE WELL TAKEN. HOWEVER, CAN YOU HELP
ME OUT IN THIS RESPECT - WILL YOU CONTACT HIS OFFICE AND ARRANGE
FOR A TIME AND PLACE FOR ME TO SEE HIM. REASON - IS THAT YOU
WOULD PROBABLY GET FURTHER FROM A PROTOCOL VIEWPOINT THAN I
SINCE I HAVE BEEN WRITING HIS XXXXXXXX BEEN RIDING HIS OR HER
BACK FOR THREE WEKXXX WEEKS. IF SOME FIRM DATE IS SET UP OR
AGREED TO, THEN SEND THE DOCUMENT BACK. HOWEVER, IF POSSIBLE
IN SOME WAY TO GET HIM TO COME DOWN TO YOUR PLACE TO TAKE A PEEK
AT IT, I AM SURE WE CAN GET AN ANSWER ON THE SPOT.

THIS IS JUST A SUGGESTION GA

OK WILL GIVE IT ANOTHER TRY DONT LET ON I KNOW YOU HAVE CALLED
AND I WONT TELL HIM I WILL MAKE A ROUTINE FOLLOW UP BASED ON THE
NEWSPAPER ARTICLE SO HE WONT FEEL IM READ IN WILL ADVISE U
SOON AS I GET ANYTHING SOMETIMES THIS GUY IS AS HARD TO GET AHOOLD
OF BY FONE AS A SPUTNICK OR A SAUCER
CLEAR ON TELECON AND THANKS GEORGE U HAVE MY COMPLETE
SYMPATHY

GAPLS

OUR SINCEREST THANKS IN BEHALF OF MYSELF AND THE CENTER HERE
WOULD NOT HAVE YR JOB FOR ALL TEXXX THE MONEY IN THE WORLD
APPRECIATE ANYTHING IN OUR BEHALF THAT YOU CAN DO
CLEAR TELECON HERE
OUT OR GA WITH TRAFFIC

BACK TO PAUL FITTS... WE NEED HIS SERVICES FOR ABOUT SIX OR SEVEN HOURS FOR A ~~DISCREET~~ EVALUATION. COULD YOU SUGGEST AN EASY WAY OF HANDLING THIS GA

LET ME THINK.

*add
→ psychological*

WE HAD THOT THAT AN AMENDMENT TO PCS 25 WITE WORK. HOWEVER, THIS WUD TAKE A FAIR AMT OF TIME AND AS OF NOW WE ONLY HAVE THE ONE EVALUTXXX EVALUTXXXX EVALUATION AND THIS WITE BE THE ONLY ONE THIS YEAR GA

HOLD IT.

DOES THIS HAVE TO BE DONE REAL FAST OR IS THERE TIME TO GET APPROVAL FROM GEYER TO USE HIM ON THIS CONTRACT CAPLS

WE HAD HOPED TO MOVE THE APXXX PAPER WORK TODAY. HOWEVER, TWO OR THREE DAYS CUD BE SPARED IF NECESSARY GA

WE THIS A CLASSIFIE D EFFORT CAPLS

THE PAPER WORK IS CLASSIFIED "CONFIDENTIAL" GA

U AM TALKING TO GALE. THERE ARE TWO WAYS WE MIGHT DO THIS IF WE HE BNI STILL HAS BNI CONSULTANTS AGREEMENT THEN WE MAY BE ABLE TO HANDLE THIS RAPIDLY VIA THAT INSTRUMENT IF NOT THEN WE MAY BE ABLE TO ISSUE PURCHASE ORDER FIXED PRICE IN NOTHING FLAT PROVIDED WE CAN DESCRIBE THE SERVICES IN TERMS OF HOURS AND DOLLARS WHICH WE HAVE DONE IN PAST GALE IS CHECKING HIS FILES TO SEE BNI HAS ACTIVE CONSULTANTS AGREEMENT IF SO THIS IS DIFFERENT THAN ONE ON OUR ACTIVITY

DO U IMAGINE THAT WE COULD APPR

WE HAVE AN ACTIVE AGREEMENT WITH HIM BUT NOT APPROVED ON THIS CONTRACT. GALE SAYS THAT HE CAN CALL FRANK GEYER AND SEE IF HE CAN GET ORAL APPROVAL TO BE APPROVED IN WRITING WILL THIS DO CAPLS

YES IT WILL CUS. CAN YOU ADVISE SMXX SMXX AS SOON AS YOU GET THIS INFORMATION AND WE WILL MAKE ARRANGEMENTS FOR CAPT GREGORY OR YOUR BOYS WHO AEKKK ARE COMING DOWN TODAY TO CARRY THE INFORMATION BACK WITH THEM.

THAT IS ALL I HAVE FOR NOW OUT YR TWO OR GA

CLEAR HERE. OOT

UNCLASSIFIED
AIR TECHNICAL INTELLIGENCE CENTER
UNITED STATES AIR FORCE
WRIGHT-PATTERSON AIR FORCE BASE
OHIO

ATCIN-464

Dr. Paul H. Fitts
Department of Psychology
325 Arps Hall
Ohio State University
Columbus, Ohio

Dear Dr. Fitts:

This Center herewith submits a case file containing the original report, as well as the results, of a preliminary investigation regarding an alleged "flying saucer" sighting made by 1st Lt Joseph F. Long, USAF on the morning of 23 November, West of Tonopah, Nevada.

In accordance with discussions between you and Captain Gregory, the UFO Project Officer, in a meeting held in April of 1956, regarding the possible use of your services on a consultant's basis, it is desirable that a review and analysis of the data and statements in the attached material be made, from a psychological point of view. It would be appreciated if an informal report of pertinent comments and conclusions resulting from your analysis be forwarded as soon as possible.

We consider you the best qualified person to fulfill this requirement on the basis of your previous work in this field, in which you performed psychological analyses on 212 UFO cases, as well as your report "Psychological Analysis of Reports of Unidentified Aerial Objects" which you prepared for the Air Force a few years ago.

Background material and certain points which ATIC analysts consider significant are as follows:

a. A large number of "contact" and "near-contact" bases, such as this incident have been reported to the Air Force since the inception of our UFO program over a decade ago. However, investigations of these sightings by individuals claiming to have approached close to, examined, or actually flown in these so-called "flying saucers", generally disclosed strong elements of hoaxes, deliberate falsifications, psychopathological personalities, hysterical manifestations and misinterpretation of conventional objects.

b. However, our records disclose no instance of any military pilot or qualified aerial observer officially reporting to have made an actual contact or near-contact with flying saucers.

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MEMO FOR FILE - Tomopek, 23 Nov 58 Incident

SUBJECT: Long-Distance Call to State Highway Department of Nevada,
Carson City, Nevada

1. Called Nevada Highway Department as to the estimated traffic that would be on the road US 96 and US 5, between Tomopek, Nevada and points east and north, at around 5:00 to 6:30 in the morning, particularly around November 23rd.

2. Following information given by a Mr. McNeill (or McNulty or McPhail, Transmission bad):

a. Always some traffic on that road from and to Northern Nevada and California.

b. When asked for specific estimates said "about 25 to 30 ^{cars} per hour".

3. Was asked if anything unusual such as any odd airborne object was reported to the Nevada State Highway Patrol or Highway Department on that date by any motorist on or about 23 November. Replied in the negative.

GEORGE T. GREGORY
CAPT., USAF
22 January 1958

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Ltr to Dr. Paul M. Pitts, Columbus, Ohio

c. In this respect, this case may be considered somewhat unprecedented. Here we have a fighter pilot, familiar with current, and assumedly projected aircraft and missile designs, considered completely reliable and claiming close contact with the objects in question, in official testimony given during interviews.

d. An official check subsequent to the attached reports indicates that the officer just completed the Air Forces Survival Course at Stead Air Force Base, Nevada. On the same day he left for Las Vegas, Nevada, traveling all night without rest, with the exception of a brief rest en route.

It is requested that this material be handled as discreetly as possible, and safeguarded, consistent with its classification.

Your efforts and findings with regard to this matter will be appreciated.

Sincerely,

Franklin

1 Incl
UFO Folder containing
2 classified papers
1. AISS-UFOB-779-57
(1-12p) (T58-1782) (C)
2. Misc, SWSTIA 11-517-57
(1-3p) (T57-31735-1) (C)

THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY

NOVICE G. FAWCETT, President

COLUMBUS 10

COLLEGE OF EDUCATION
DEPARTMENT OF PSYCHOLOGY
LABORATORY OF AVIATION
PSYCHOLOGY
239 NATATORIUM

3 April 1958

Mr. Howard Cross
Battelle Memorial Institute
505 King Avenue
Columbus, Ohio

Dear Mr. Cross,

I have examined the Tonopah, Nevada Incident of 23 November 1957, involving 1st. Lt. Joseph F. Long.

This is indeed an unusual report. With one important exception, it has many of the characteristics of the deliberate hoaxes and reports of psychopathological cases; this exception is that it was made by an Air Force officer, a pilot who presumably should be a most competent observer.

On the basis of the evidence in the folder I can only offer conjectures regarding the nature of this incident. These conjectures may be helpful, however, in the collection of additional evidence.

First, there is always the possibility of a deliberate hoax, even in an Air Force officer. In order to check on this possibility, I would recommend a discrete investigation of the officer's personal background—the kind of investigation that is conducted before granting a security clearance. Specifically, do friends, neighbors, etc., know of any evidence in the officer's background that would suggest the possibility of a hoax?

Second, and what I consider the most likely conjecture, it is possible that the officer was suffering from a temporary condition such as has sometimes been called "road hypnosis," brought on by excessive fatigue and loss of sleep. There are well documented cases of truck drivers, for example, who have driven off the road in order to avoid (entirely imagined) houses, busses, etc., ahead of them on the road. This is most likely to occur on long desert roads, especially at night.

(Note: Dr. Ross McFarland, School of Public Health, Harvard University should be consulted on this point. He has made studies of road hypnosis. He has also served with me on an Air Force Scientific Advisory Board study group and is an authority in aviation psychology.)

I recommend that a complete hour-by-hour analysis be made of Lt. Long's activities during the 72-hour period preceding the reported sighting. Was he subjected to unusual physical or psychological stresses during the latter phases of the survival course? Exactly how much sleep had he had during this 72-hour period? Had he been taking any drugs, stimulants or alcohol during the night's drive. If so, what and how much?

3 April 1958

(Note: This investigation should be made through an interview with Lt. Long by a competent Flight Surgeon, and by means of a check-up with Survival Course personnel at Stead AF Base.)

Third, there is a possibility that this may conform to the pattern of many previous "flying saucer" reports. As I pointed out some nine years ago in my first analysis, practically all reports are characterized by complete lack of observation of specific details of the object observed. (Where these details are observed, the object is always identified.) Note here that the object itself was not clearly seen; it appeared to " . . . glow brightly" and it " . . . emitted light." Also, the object and all observed components (the "translucent dome" as well as the "hemispherical" landing gears) of the object were without specific structure. This appearance of roundness, lack of clear corners, edges, structural detail, etc., usually occurs because the object is not seen clearly; the observer is actually seeing a strong light reflected from a surface or actually a light source, or else his eyes are out of focus, or else the object is much farther away than assumed. Lt. Long's account is clearly inconsistent with his statement that he was within 50 feet of the object. At 50 feet he should have been able to observe small structural details, such as antenna, trade name on the tires, etc.

If conjecture three should be true, I cannot speculate as to what was actually seen. However, I do recommend that a thorough check be made for possible helicopter or other activities in the area.

I am at a loss to account for the high intensity noise together with absence of heat, smoke, or gust effects. My only conjecture here is that the objects may have been much farther away than assumed. Sound travels farther than heat or air blast.

As to the "several small impressions" in the sand I shall leave it to others to judge the importance of this evidence.

In summary, I strongly feel that this is just another case of mistaken identity or confusion in perception under unusual circumstances. This opinion, I must confess, is based primarily on comparison of this with the thousands of previous reports. As I have pointed out before, from a scientific viewpoint, it is impossible to disprove in each case that the thing observed was not a vehicle from outer space—it is not possible to prove the null hypothesis. However, in view of the now existing massive amount of negative data, my own inclination is to remain highly skeptical and certainly to take no action beyond that already underway in the absence of incontrovertible evidence of a positive nature. I do not consider the present evidence at all conclusive.

Sincerely,

Paul M. Fitts

Paul M. Fitts

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AIR TECHNICAL INTELLIGENCE CENTER
UNITED STATES AIR FORCE
WRIGHT-PATTERSON AIR FORCE BASE
OHIO

AFCIN-4E4

SUBJECT: (C) Request for Special Investigation - 1st Lt Joseph F. Long, AO-3028640

TO: District Commander
5th District Office of Special Investigations
ATTN: Lt Colonel P. M. Nold
Wright Patterson Air Force Base, Ohio

1. In accordance with prescribed directives of AFR 200-2, this Center has recently completed an extensive investigation and analysis of a UFO incident that allegedly took place near Tonopah, Nevada early in the morning of 23 November 1957. (Uncl)

2. In brief, the incident involves subject officer who claims to have made close contact with what is commonly referred to as "Flying saucers." A formal investigation requested by this Center disclosed that subject officer left immediately upon completing the USAF Survival School at Stead AFB; traveled all night enroute to Las Vegas, and encountered the alleged objects the following day. In this respect, the case may be considered somewhat unprecedented: the officer is a fighter pilot who is assumed to be familiar with both current and projected aircraft, missile and helicopter designs, as well as aerial phenomena that is often mistaken for unusual or unconventional airborne objects, yet insisting in official testimony to having made the contact in question. (Conf)

3. The matter has been completed within this Center's scope of responsibility, which embraces only the technical and scientific study and analyses of the incident. As such, it has not been resolved to the satisfaction of the Air Force. This is concurred with by a consultant, Dr. Fitts, President of the Department of Psychology, Ohio State University, to which the case was referred for his review and evaluation. Reference is made to pertinent material in attached case file. Dr. Fitts has performed analyses, from the psychological point of view, on a number of complex UFO cases for the Air Force. (Conf)

4. The case is now considered to fall within the requirements for a special investigation, if it is to be carried to its ultimate and logical conclusion. It is therefore requested that action be initiated to accomplish the following, specifically:

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Cv 1 of 3 Cys

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Ltr, Dist Comdr, 5th Dist OSI, Subj: (C) Req for Spl Investigations

a. A discreet investigation of the officer's background, with emphasis on leads and indications that would suggest any tendency towards exaggerations or possibility of a hoax.

b. An hour-by-hour accountability of the 72 hour period preceding the alleged sighting, with full consideration given to those points specifically recommended in Dr. Fitts' report.

c. Contact and coordination with both the Flight Surgeon and pertinent authorities of the Survival School at Stead AFB, to determine the nature of the course, its possible effects on trainees, and any information regarding subject officer's conduct, performance and including his physical and mental condition during and at the completion of this rigid course.

(CONF)

5. This matter is considered urgent for the manifold reasons found in the attached case file, and particularly if subject officer completes his tour of duty, or otherwise severs his relations with the Air Force before investigations to determine the actual facts have been completed.

(CONF)

6. The case file should provide you with valuable guidance and assistance in pursuance of this matter. (UNCL)

1 Incl
UFO Case File - 1st Lt
Long, Tonopah, Nevada

JOHN G. ERIKSEN
Colonel, USAF
Deputy Commander

DOWNLOADED AT 00:00:00 ON 00/00/2010
FOR 00 YEARS
BY 00 00:00:00

UNCLASSIFIED

24 April 1958

MEMORANDUM FOR Colonel Eriksen, AFCIN-4XL
Mr. Arcier

SUBJECT: Special Investigation - 1st Lt J. F. Long, AO-3028640

1. I do not feel that the proposed OSI investigation is necessary for the following reasons:

a. If the OSI determines that the subject's background does not suggest any tendencies toward exaggerations or hoaxes, our present conclusions regarding the sighting are neither strengthened nor weakened.

b. If the OSI determines that the subject's background does contain indication which would suggest a definite tendency toward exaggerations or hoaxes, ATIC is then bound to take some follow-up action. Such action would be detrimental to the individual concerned, and would not positively disprove the alleged sighting.

c. The final paragraph of the report by Dr. Fitts seems to me to be an entirely acceptable conclusion in regard to this case. I recommend that this conclusion be accepted and that the case be closed.

HK Gilbert

H. K. GILBERT
Colonel, USAF
AFCIN-4E

Incl

Ltr to Dist Cmdr, 5th Dist Off
of Special Investigation

*All proposed actions cancelled. Case
closed, in accordance with directions of the
Chief.*

*Gen. J. Gray
25 April 1958*

MEMORANDUM FOR FILE:

SUBJECT: Final Disposition - UFO Incident, Tonopah, Nevada, 23 Nov 57,
Source, 1st Lt J. F. Long, AO-7028640

1. PURPOSE: This memorandum was prepared to summarize the details of the background and events of subject incident; and to provide an official record of the developments and reasons leading to the "closing" of the case.

2. GENERAL BACKGROUND AND PERTINENT EVENTS:

a. First report of incident was received by ATIC by priority(Flash) message, SWSIA-11-517-57, T-57-31735. Telephonic request made to Headquarters, AISS for a full-scale investigation because of the unusual aspects and circumstances.

b. Results of AISS investigation received 22 January 1958 on Air Intelligence Information Report - UFUB-779-57, Detachment 10, 1006th AISS.

c. A careful review and analysis of all information and data from investigators reports resulted in advancing the following probabilities and/or hypotheses:

(1) Optical Illusion/Mistaken Identity:

Source was extremely fatigued; had just completed one of the Air Force's most difficult courses, with its known physical and mental demands; had travelled all night with very little or no rest; and observed the phenomena at a location, time and under conditions known to produce optical illusions or mistaking conventional things and phenomena for unusual objects; flat desert country, half-light of dawn, sun rising in front of him; mentally and physically fatigued observer, his statement to the contrary notwithstanding. (Interrogations conducted on similar-type cases invariably show that observers always state that they "--felt fine - wide awake - not tired --" when questioned as to their physical condition. Under no circumstances will they admit otherwise.)

(2) A Deliberate Hoax: Justification for considering this hypothesis is supported by the following facts, based on the investigations and carefully conducted interrogations:

(a) Incident happened only a few days after the now-famous "Levelland UFO Case" which triggered off over 400 almost similarly described UFO reports in three weeks.

RE-CLASSIFICATION DATE [REDACTED]

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(b) Except for the "contact" aspects, Lt Long's description of the incident parallels the "Levelland case." Note: speeding 80 mph, ignition suddenly stops, hears high-pitched whine, notices objects, objects emit a luminous glow.

(c) Familiar with science fiction, "flying saucer" and "UFO" writers.

(d) Mouthed same thread-worn statements used by majority of pseudo-scientists and "flying saucer" authors, i.e. not of this earth - propulsion by electro-magnetic forces - believe they were space ships.

(e) Background checks disclosed source:

- (1) A Reserve Officer - with probability of release upon termination of his current tour.
- (2) His academic training and education was to prepare him for TV and related work.
- (3) (Comment: Source cannot be considered unaware of the sensational interest and lucrative opportunities his story would create in TV, radio and press. See "Analysts comments" in case file regarding ~~probable~~ motives for story, if hoax.) *possible (475)*

(3) Actual "Unknown" Craft: Although it cannot be conclusively proved that the objects observed were not some heretofore "unknown" craft, the following tend to indicate otherwise:

- (a) Checks disclosed ^{no} ~~UFOs~~ or anything unusual reported from any ~~hundreds~~ of radar units that scan the air space over the U.S. 24 hours a day for that date, and definitely not from that area.
- (b) Highly ~~improbable~~ that three (reported) solid objects could traverse U.S. air space without being picked up ^{as} ~~as~~ current radar capabilities extend up to 3000 miles.
- (c) No reports of anything unusual from military and ~~civil flights~~, operations, and other activities in the area.
- (d) No reports from any persons or drivers in that area and general time. (Call made to Nevada State Highway Department which stated that there is always some traffic on U.S. highway 96 and 5 (where the incident took place); and that no one reported anything unusual from either that specific place or any part of Arizona that day.)

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d. Psychological Analysis of Incident:

- (1) Undersigned officer considered it to the best interests of all concerned to have the entire incident, and the results of the Air Force's investigations, analyses and comments (up to that point) be reviewed and evaluated from a psychological point of view - before making any definite conclusions or recommending further actions.
- (2) A vis-a-vis psychological examination of the source, concurrent with his report was not considered advisable.
- (3) Dr. Paul M. Fitts, Department of Psychology, Ohio State University was contacted and the case file turned over to him for pertinent comments and recommendations.
- (4) Dr. Fitts was selected for this review on the basis of his ~~previous~~ experience with UFO cases, having previously performed 212 analyses of UFO cases for the Air Force.
- (5) ^{Conclusions} Summary of Dr. Fitts' Comments, and Recommendations:
 - (a) The report has many of the characteristics of deliberate hoaxes and psycho-pathological cases.
 - (b) There is complete lack of observation of specific details - although observer states he was very close to objects, and ^{is} inconsistent ~~with~~ his statements.
 - (c) Most likely conjecture: road hypnosis due to excessive fatigue and loss of sleep who imagine seeing objects ahead of them. (Many well documented cases, and is most likely to occur on long desert roads, and especially at night.)
 - (d) Conclusions: Mistaken identity or confusion in perception; present evidence not considered conclusive; and highly skeptical (of the actual incident).
 - (e) Recommendations: An hour-by-hour investigation and analysis of Lt Long's activities during the 72-hour period preceding the reported sighting.

3. RECOMMENDED COURSES OF ACTION, AND POSSIBLE CONSEQUENCES OF EACH:

Upon review of Dr. Fitts' report the following courses of action were informally outlined during a conference held with Dr. Miley, Chief, Air Science Division, and Mr. Arcier, Scientific Advisor, ATIC, ^{on 7 May 1958} ~~on 1958~~; the possible consequences of the specific action taken; ~~with~~ a recommendation that the case be reviewed by General Watson and his staff, or Headquarters USAF for a command decision:

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a. A polygraph (lie detector) test be given Lt Long. Consequences: test would definitely establish if subject was lying or was disposed towards exaggeration or hoaxes. If he actually believed he saw the three strange objects (because of fatigue, road hypnosis, etc.) the case would remain inconclusive, with the observer's story being strengthened, with the probability of anger and resentment towards the Air Force on the part of subject.

b. Close the case with the stronger of the two hypothesis advanced independently by ATIC and Dr. Fitts as the "conclusion": Mistaken identity caused by fatigue, road hypnosis, etc. (See 2c(1) and 2d(5). Consequences: Future reviewers ~~or requestors~~ might consider the Air Force's conclusions totally unacceptable, and question the reason for not following-up ~~to support of~~ the conclusions. ⁱⁿ ~~or disproof~~

c. Request a discreet, full-scale OSI investigation of Lt Long's actions, whereabouts, tendencies, and physical and mental condition and other aspects for the period preceding his sighting, to provide the Air Force with further, factual or confirming information necessary to form more valid conclusions. Consequences: (1) If the investigation supports the "fatigue-road hypnosis-optical illusion" hypotheses, the officer would probably accept the findings, and the Air Force conclusions would be strengthened. (2) If investigations disclose deliberate attempts at hoaxes, exaggerations or publicity seeking for personal gain at a later date, legal action against the officer might be necessary, with probable adverse publicity to the Air Force, as well as an opportunity for "UFO Clubs" desiring to exploit the situation.

4. SUMMARY OF INCIDENT FOR GENERAL WATSON AND DECISION:

a. Based on conversations between Col Eriksen and Mr. Arcier, a brief summary of the case was requested by Mr. Arcier to be submitted to General Watson for review, upon which to base a decision.

b. ^{This personal} Summary was reviewed by Col Eriksen, Deputy Commander, ~~who~~ ⁱⁿ General Watson's absence, directed ~~an~~ OSI investigation ~~be made~~.

c. ^{This is the} Rough draft of ~~request~~ for OSI investigation requested by Mr. Arcier. ^{the letter}

d. Draft for OSI investigation ~~reviewed~~ and informally approved by Col Eriksen on DD Form 95, 15 April 1958, with instructions to prepare final letter. ^(Attachment, incl. 1)

5. FINAL ACTION AND DISPOSITION:

a. Final letter to OSI for full-scale investigation submitted through channels for coordination and final approval on 21 April 1958.

b. Non-concurrence to proposed OSI ~~action~~ made by Col Gilbert, with memorandum to Col Eriksen outlining reasons for the nonconcurrence, with recommendations regarding disposition of case.

JOINT MESSAGEFORM

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FROM: SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS COMDR ATICTO: RJWPNL COMDR, 3635 CC TNG GR (SURVL), USAF ADVANCED SURVIVAL SCHOOL, STEAD AFB, NEVADA

/UNCLASSIFIED/ FROM: AFCIN-4E4 1-134-E

REQUEST DATE JOSEPH F. LONG, 1/LT AO 3028640, COMPLETED USAF ADVANCED SURVIVAL SCHOOL COURSE, AND SPECIFIC TIME AND DATE THIS OFFICER SIGNED OUT. BELIEVED COMPLETED COURSE O/A 22 NOVEMBER 1957. IMMEDIATE REPLY REQUESTED. REFER TO AFCIN-4E4.

COORDINATION

AFCIN-4E4 Henry A. Miley DATE 23 Jan. 58
Dr. H. A. Miley

(Answer attached).

DATE	TIME
23	1230
MONTH	YEAR
JAN	58

WRITER	SYMBOL	RELEASER		SIGNATURE
	AFCIN-4E4			<i>Wallace W. Elwood</i>
	TYPED NAME AND TITLE (Signature, if required)		TYPED (or stamped) NAME AND TITLE	
	T/Sgt James Bolieu		WALLACE W. ELWOOD	
	PHONE	69216	PAGE NR.	1
			NR. OF PAGES	1
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c. Discussions held between Mr. Arcier and Col Eriksen, and subsequently with Col Gilbert regarding the matter on 25 April 1958 (Ref DD Form 95, attached to ATIC letter to OSI)

d. Conference with Dr. Miley and Capt Gregory, morning 1 May 1958, informally notified that proposed investigation was given reconsideration, and that the case be closed with ATIC and Dr. Fitts' original conclusions.

e. OSI letter, AFCIN-4E memorandum to Deputy Commander, and DD Form 95 confirming item d. above, with added recommendation that an official record be made of the matter for possible future use, received 7 May 1958. (See DD Form 95, Incl. 2, attached)

f. Case closed with copy of this memorandum in the case file in compliance with the recommendation referenced in preceding item.

GEORGE T. GREGORY
Captain, USAF
Air Sciences Division

Reviewed:

1. *H. A. Miley* Dr. H. A. MILEY Date 20 May 1958
AFCIN-4E4
2. COLONEL H. K. GILBERT Date _____
AFCIN-4E
3. MR. ARCIER Date _____
AFCIN-4X

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MEMO ROUTING SLIP		NEVER USE FOR APPROVALS, DISAPPROVALS, CONCURRENCES, OR SIMILAR ACTIONS	
1 NAME OR TITLE Mr. Arcier		INITIALS	CIRCULATE
ORGANIZATION AND LOCATION AFCIN 4X1		DATE	COORDINATION
2 Gen. Watson <i>Col. Engleman</i>			FILE
AFCIN-4			INFORMATION
3			NECESSARY ACTION
			NOTE AND RETURN
4			SEE ME
			SIGNATURE
<p>REMARKS</p> <p>Mr. Arcier: In accordance with your instructions re. the proper presentation of this case to Gen. Watson <i>Col. Engleman</i></p> <p>a. A summary of the case is attached, indicating only those points deemed pertinent.</p> <p>b. A "Draft" of a formal request to the OSI for a full-scale investigation. As recommended by you we will get more immediate action if Gen. Watson would personally sign the request.</p> <hr/> <p><i>Okay - go ahead with final letter. to OSI. E.</i></p>			
FROM NAME OR TITLE Capt. Gregory		DATE <i>150 file 50</i>	
ORGANIZATION AND LOCATION 4E4		TELEPHONE 69216	

DD FORM 1 FEB 50 95 Replaces DA AGO Form 595, 1 Apr 48, and AFHQ Form 12, 10 Nov 47, which may be used.

★ GPO : 1954 - O - 402481

2nd #1

MEMO ROUTING SLIP		NEVER USE FOR APPROVALS, DISAPPROVALS, CONCURRENCES, OR SIMILAR ACTIONS	
1 NAME OR TITLE <u>Dr. Henry A. Miley</u>		INITIALS <i>Hm</i>	CIRCULATE
ORGANIZATION AND LOCATION <u>AFCIN-4E1</u>		DATE <i>4/29/58</i>	COORDINATION
2 <u>Colonel H. K. Gilbert</u>		<i>G</i>	FILE
<u>AFCIN-4E</u>			INFORMATION
3 <u>Mr. Areiter</u>		<i>W</i>	NECESSARY ACTION
<u>AFCIN-4X1</u>			NOTE AND RETURN
4 <u>Colonel Eriksen</u>		<i>b</i>	SEE ME
<u>AFCIN-4X</u>			SIGNATURE
REMARKS			
<p>Please return to AFCIN-4E4. Will be handcarried to addressee.</p> <p>Francis - Request your comment on memo by Col. Gilbert before I sign it.</p> <p>COMDR ATIC AFCIN-4 AFCIN-4X AFCIN-4X1 AFCIN-4X2</p> <p>② <i>OK</i> I'd still go for it. ① <i>OK</i> coordination <i>date</i></p> <p>Col Eriksen 25/4/58 Believe we should adopt Col Gilbert's recommendations to make the various proposals a matter of record for possible future use. <i>OK</i></p>			
FROM NAME OR TITLE <u>Capt. G. T. Gregory</u>		DATE <i>4/23/58</i>	
ORGANIZATION AND LOCATION <u>AFCIN-4E4</u> Final action required.		TELEPHONE <i>69216</i>	

DD FORM 95 Replaces DA AGO Form 845, 1 Apr 48, and AFHQ Form 12, 10 Nov 47, which may be used.

★ GPO : 1958 - 0-402481

419

Incl #2

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**SUMMARY OF TONOPAH, NEVADA UFO INCIDENT
FOR GENERAL WATSON**

1. Priority report received on 24 November 1957 that an Air Force pilot had encountered four (4) so-called "flying saucers" early in the morning of the preceding day, West of Tonopah, Nevada; had observed it closely; in fact, approached within 50 feet of the object before it ascended and disappeared.
2. Numerous UFO reports from pilots and aircrews during the last ten (10) years observed in the air, but no instance known of any "contact" by otherwise qualified military personnel. Headquarters ADC was requested to make immediate full-dress investigation, and report to ATIC in detail.
3. A review and evaluation of this report indicated the following:
 - a. Officer had a background and studies in Speech, and related subjects for TV work.
 - b. Was familiar with names of well-known science-fiction and "flying saucer" writers.
 - c. Advanced the same classic arguments of "saucer" believers that the objects were space ships, i.e., did not resemble any design known to him, etc.
 - d. He is a reserve officer, with the possibility that he may complete his tour of duty with the Air Force in the very near future, and would probably enter into TV work.
 - e. He just completed the very rigid USAF Survival Course at Stead AF Base the day before; left immediately, and drove all night enroute to Las Vegas.
4. Checks show no UFO's or any report of unusual objects from radar, GOC, military and civil flight and other operations from that area. No reports from any other persons in the locality.
5. ATIC evaluation: (a) Probably mistook conventional objects because of fatigue from driving all night and the mental strain from the recently completed survival course, coupled with the half-light of dawn which often play weird tricks on the eyes, or (b) a deliberate hoax.

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Summary of Tonopah, Nevada UFO Incident For General Watson (Continued)

6. In either event, the conclusions were considered satisfactory.

7. The case file data was submitted to a well-known psychologist who had previously evaluated UFO sightings. His comments paralleled those of ATIC, but with recommendations that the officer be discreetly investigated with view of obtaining certain pertinent information to resolve the case. This would require the services of the OSI.

8. The damage and embarrassment to the Air Force would be incalculable, if, this officer allied himself with the host of "flying saucer" writers, experts, and others who barrage the Air Force with countless charges and accusations. In this instance, as matters now stand, the Air Force would have no effective rebuttal, or evidence to disprove any unfounded charges.

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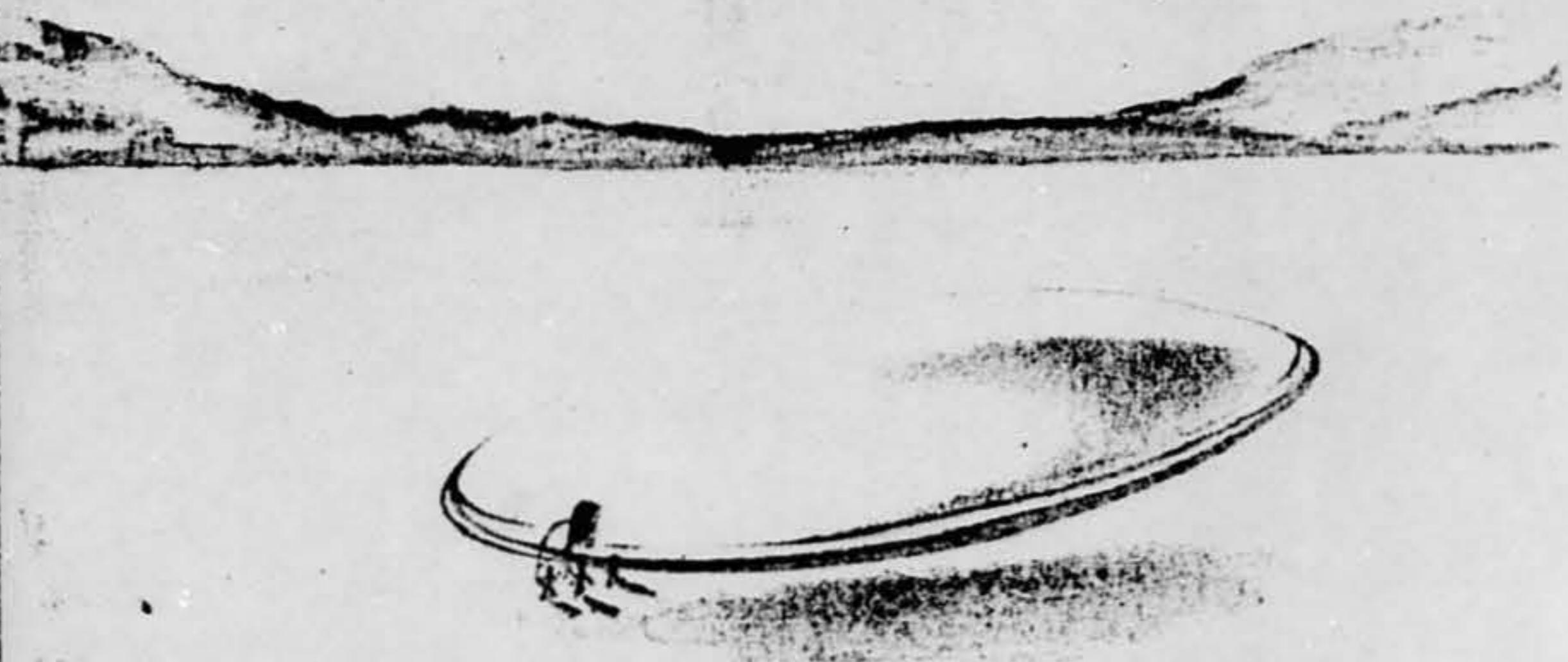
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This CASE Includes
ONE (1) page of reproductions.
(Two (2) reproductions).



Thomas Betzheim, author of "Aboard a Flying Saucer," claims he met a crew from a flying saucer, including its lady captain, in Nevada in '52.

Py - Same + the same
5 years later



Artist's conception of the craft that Thomas Betzheim said he boarded in Nevada during 1952. The drawing is reproduced from "Aboard a Flying Saucer" courtesy DeVore & Co.

Coincidence? Almost same location. Investigators report Lt Long is familiar with "Saucer" books and authors. Place in case file for possible correlation, as part of research and analysis. GTG.

See evidence
Keep per ^{mem} file. Co
in Long's case file. Also
a probe that with the
same object at the
same place in Nevada

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AIR INTELLIGENCE INFORMATION REPORT

Intelligence ID: 10001

Approved for Release

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2. Source information: The fact that the information is reliable and that the information is accurate is not explicitly stated. However, the source is identified as a reliable source.

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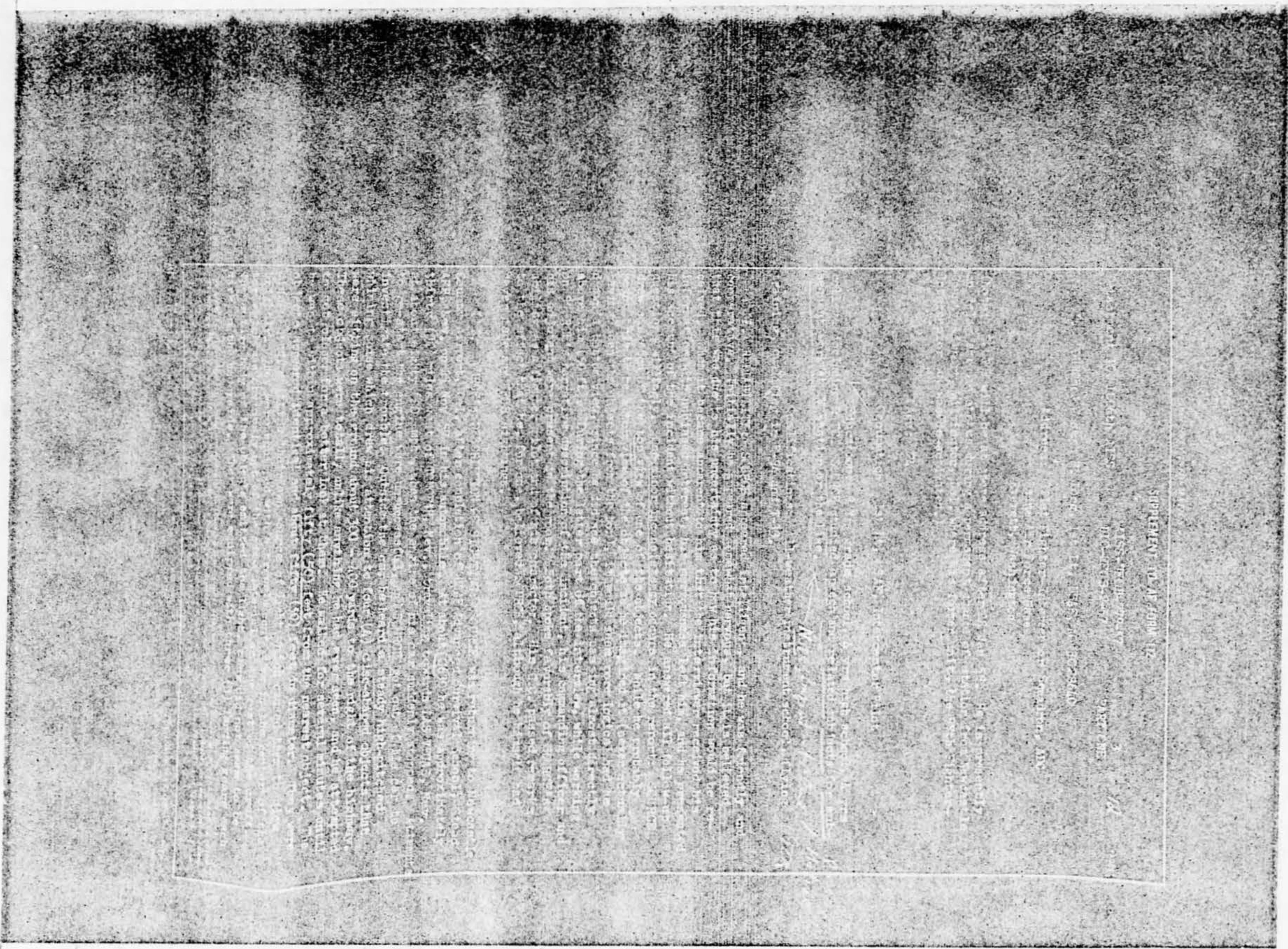
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YOUR MESSAGE AFCIN-4E4. 1LT JOSEPH F LONG AO 3028640 COMPLETED USAF
ADVANCED SURVIVAL TRAINING COURSE 22 NOVEMBER 1957. SUBJECT
OFFICER SIGNED OUT THIS STATION 0930 HOURS 22 NOVEMBER 1957

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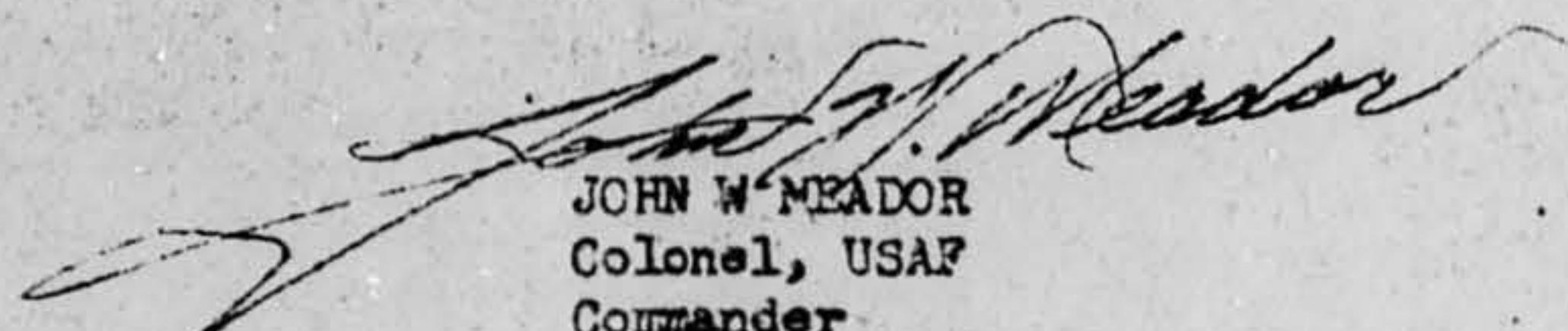
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PAGE

2 OF 12

PAGES

APPROVED:


JOHN W. MEADOR
Colonel, USAF
Commander

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Detachment 10, 1006th AISS

REPORT NO.

AISS-UFOB-779-57
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PAGE 3 OF 12

PAGES

PART ONE

I. SOURCE: Joseph F. Long, 1st Lt, USAF, AO 3028640

Address: 321st Fighter-Interceptor Squadron, ADC
Paine Air Force Base
Everett, Washington

(Note: SOURCE will be at above address after 18 Jan 58. He is presently on delay enroute status during a permanent change of station from Newcastle County Airport, Wilmington, Del, where his former unit, the 97th Fighter-Interceptor Sq, was de-activated.)

Age: 24

Occupation: 1st Lt, USAF, Interceptor Pilot

Education: 8 Yrs grade school, 4 yrs high school, 4 yrs college including ROTC. SOURCE studied speech and related subjects for subsequent work at TV station or the like.

Qualifications: All-weather instrument school, flying training, qualified in F-94 and T-33.

II. RELIABILITY: SOURCE appeared intelligent, and he was friendly and cooperative. Initially he appeared somewhat nervous, but it is believed that this was due to his uncertainty as to how his information would be received. When it became apparent to him that the interviewer received his information with unbiased interest, his nervousness left him, and he presented his account of the incident without hesitation. He answered all follow-up questions willingly. One minor inconsistency occurs in the report: SOURCE drew a sketch of the top view of one of the objects. While he probably meant this to be a top view of the objects as he imagined it (never actually having seen the objects from the top), it would seem more logical had he drawn a bottom view, since he did see the objects passing almost directly above him (50 ft). During the latter part of the interview, while working on SOURCE's narrative description of the incident, his commanding officer and his adjutant were present in the room. Both spoke favorably of SOURCE's ability as a fighter pilot and of his character. His C.O. passed remarks to the effect that he, for one, believed SOURCE, although he himself had never made any UFOB sightings.

III. SOURCE'S DESCRIPTION OF SIGHTING: SOURCE was returning to Newcastle County Airport, Del. after completion of USAF Advanced Survival School, Stead AFB, Nev. on 23 Nov 57 in his automobile. At about 0630 he was approximately thirty (30) miles west of TONOPAH, Nev., traveling towards LAS VEGAS, Nev. at about eighty (80) mph, when the engine of his car suddenly stopped. Attempts to re-start the engine were unsuccessful, and SOURCE got out of his car to investigate the trouble. Outside the car he heard a steady high-pitched whining noise which drew his attention to four (4) disc-shaped objects that were sitting on the ground about 300 - 400 yards to the right of the highway. These objects were totally unlike anything he had ever seen, and he attempted to get closer for a better look at them. He walked for several minutes until he was to within approximately fifty (50) feet from the nearest object. The objects appeared identical and about fifty (50) feet in diameter. They were disc-shaped, emitting their own source of light which caused them to glow brightly. They were equipped with a translucent dome in the center of the top which was obviously not of the same material as the rest of the craft. The entire body of the objects emitted the light, they did not seem to be dark on the underside. They were equipped with three (3) landing gears each.

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SUPPLEMENT TO AF FORM 112

ORIGINATING AGENCY

Detachment 10, 1006th AISS

REPORT NO.

AISS-UFOB-779-57
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PAGE 4
PART ONE

that appeared hemispherical in shape, about two (2) feet in diameter, and of some dark material. SOURCE estimated the height of the objects from ground level to the top of the dome to be about ten (10) to fifteen (15) feet. The objects were equipped with a ring around the outside that was darker than the rest of the craft and was apparently rotating. When SOURCE got to within fifty (50) feet of the nearest object, the hum, which had been steady in the air ever since he first observed the objects, increased in pitch to a degree where it almost hurt his ears, and the objects lifted off the ground. The protruding gears were retracted immediately after take-off, the objects rose about fifty (50) feet into the air and proceeded slowly (about ten mph) to the north, across the highway, contoured over some small hills about a half ($\frac{1}{2}$) mile away, and disappeared behind those hills. As the objects passed directly over SOURCE, he observed no evidence of any smoke, exhaust trail, heat, disturbance to the ground or terrain, or any visible outlines of landing gear doors, or any other outlines or openings on the bottom. The total time of sighting lasted about twenty (20) minutes. After the objects disappeared, SOURCE examined the place where he had first seen them on the ground. There was no evidence that any heat had been present, or that the ground had been disturbed in any other way other than several very small impressions in the sand where the landing gears had obviously rested. The impressions were very shallow and bowl-shaped, triangular in pattern (an equally sided triangle). SOURCE did not measure the distance between the impressions, but estimated it to be about eight (8) to ten (10) feet. After his investigation of the impressions, SOURCE returned to his car, and the engine started immediately and ran perfectly. The car SOURCE was driving was a 1956 Chevrolet, and he had not experienced a trouble of similar nature before or after the incident. At the time of sighting, SOURCE had driven from RENO, Nev., to the point of sighting during the night and had slept for about two (2) hours in his car between 2400 hrs and 0200 hrs that same day. SOURCE had had no intoxicants or any sleep-retarding drugs. He described his physical condition at time of sighting as excellent. After the sighting, SOURCE proceeded to INDIAN SPRINGS AFB, Nev., where he reported the sighting to the Base Security Officer.

The times of day referred to above are given in Pacific Standard Time. At time of sighting it was daylight, but the sun was still behind the mountains. The sun was about to rise in front of SOURCE. There were no stars or moon. There was no overcast. The weather was dry, rather cold, and there was no wind. There were no other witnesses to the observation to the best of SOURCE's knowledge.

5 Incles:

1. SOURCE's sketch of UFOB
2. SOURCE's sketch of UFOB arrangement
3. SOURCE's sketch of UFOB motion
4. SOURCE's sky diagram
5. SOURCE's sketch of UFOB elevation

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SUPPLEMENT TO AF FORM 112

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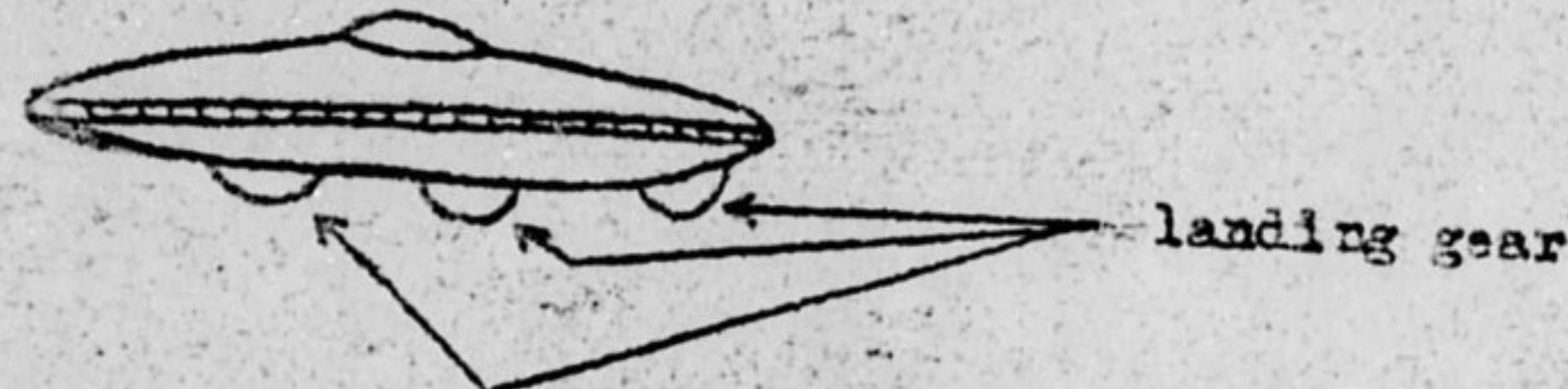
Detachment 10, 1006th AISS

REPORT NO.
AISS-UTOB-779-57
D1C-UTOB-2-57

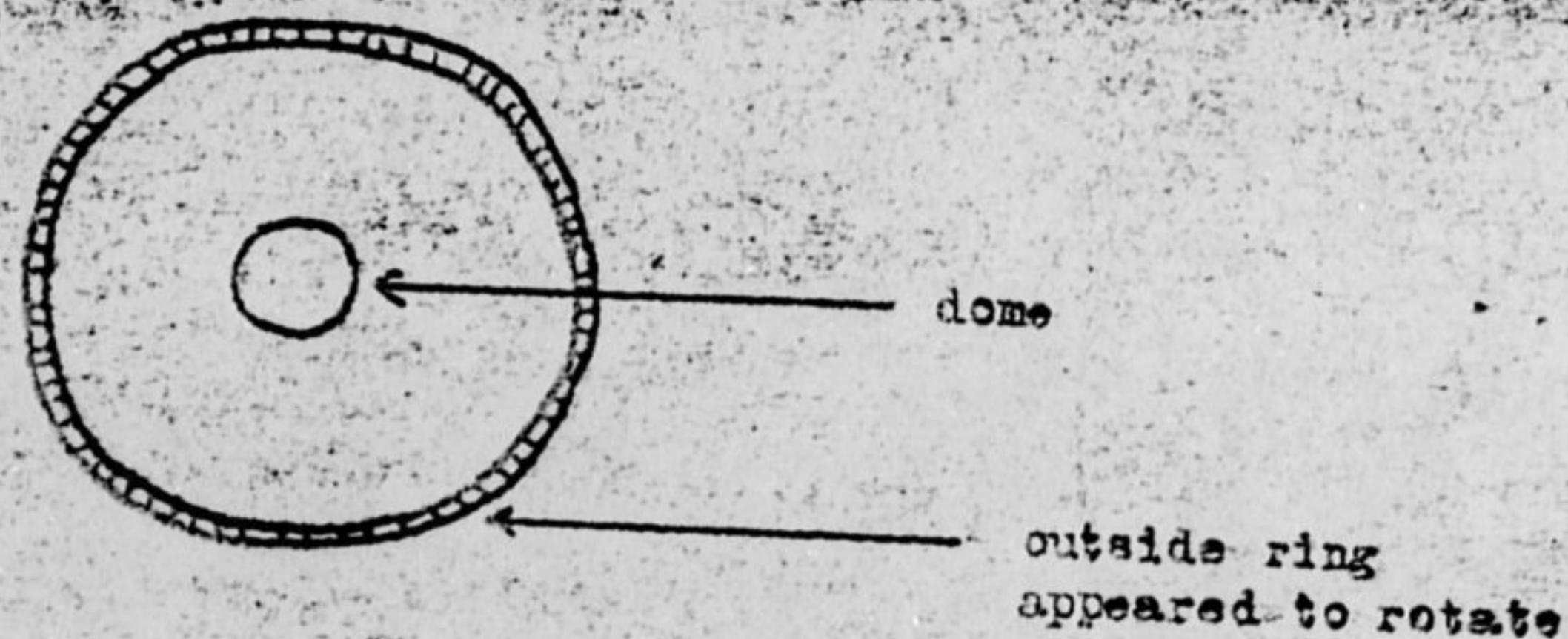
PAGE 5 OF 12 PAGES
PART ONE

Part One, Fig. One:
SOURCE's Memory Sketch, unstretched,
of one (1) of four (4) UFOBs
sighted near TONOPAH, Nev. on
23 Nov 57

Side View



Top View



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DDO/DIR 5200.10

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9

SUPPLEMENT TO AF FORM 112

ORIGINATING AGENCY

Detachment 10, 1006th AISS

REPORT NO.

AISS-UFOB-779-57
D10-UFOB-2-57

PAGE 6 OF 12 PAGES
PART ONE

Part One, Fig Two:
SOURCE's Memory Sketch, unretouched,
of the arrangement of the subject
UFOBs on the ground before they
took off.



← →
direction of travel
after take-off

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10

SUPPLEMENT TO AF FORM 112

ORIGINATING AGENCY

Detachment 10, 1006th AISS

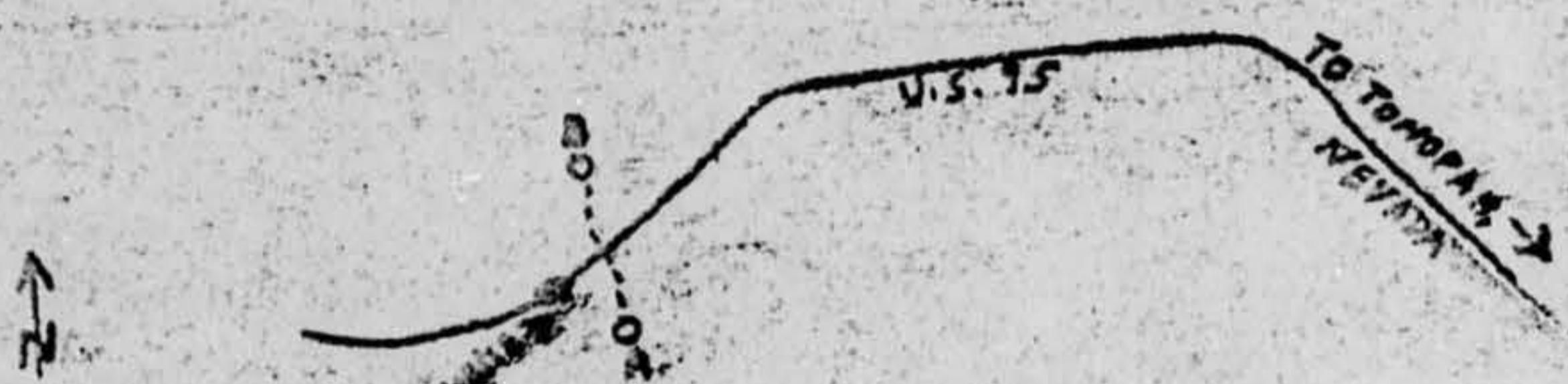
REPORT NO.

AISS-UFOB-779-57
D10-UFOB-2-57

PAGE 7 OF 12 PAGES
PART ONE

Part One, Fig Three:
SOURCE's Memory Sketch, untouched,
of the motion of subject UFOBs
in reference to a prominent
landmark.

(Sectional Aeronautical Chart RENO, T-2, was used
for orientation.)



A - Point of initial sighting

B - Point of disappearance

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SUPPLEMENT TO AF FORM 112

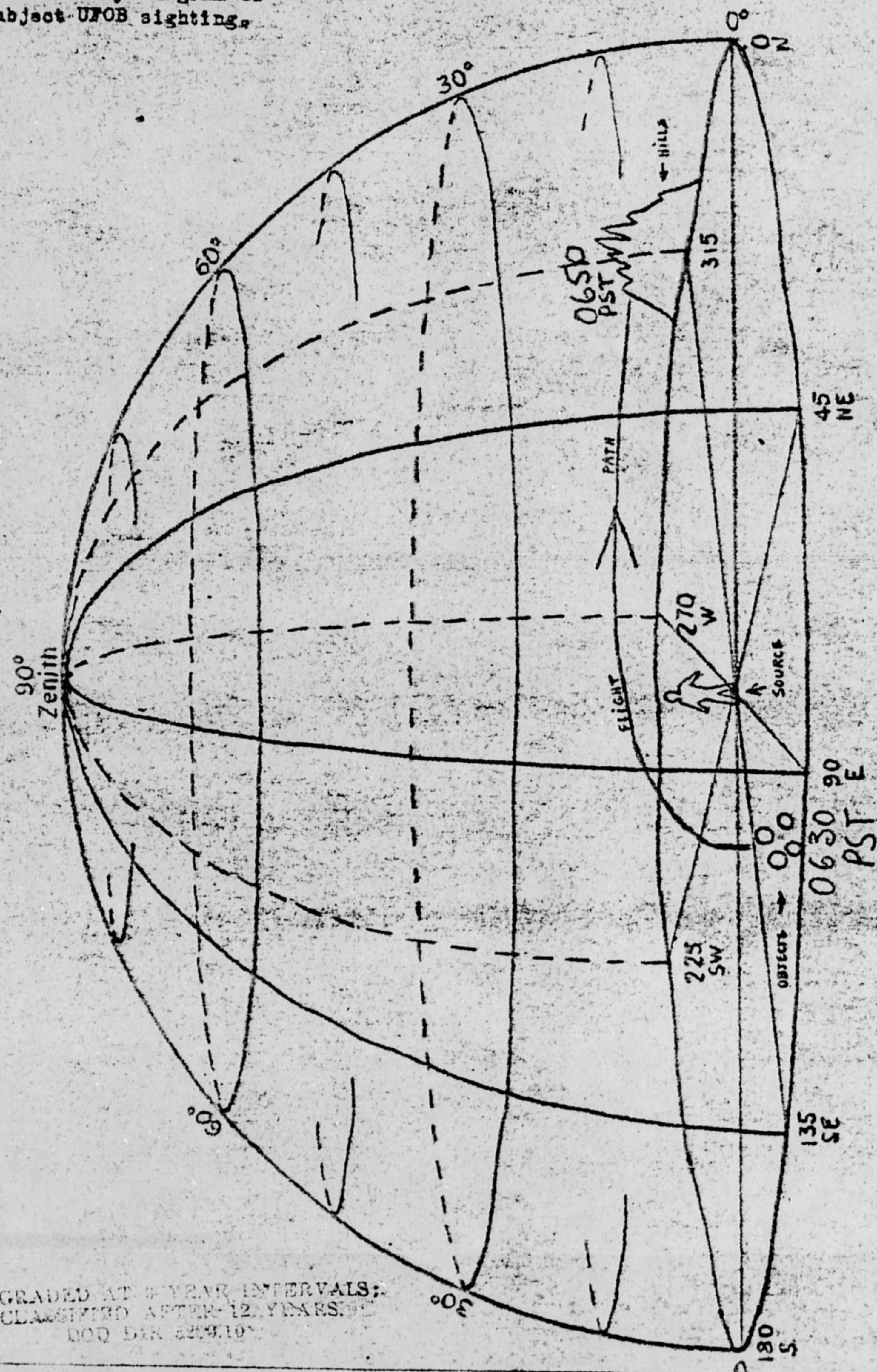
ORIGINATING AGENCY

Detachment 10, 1006th AISS

REPORT NO.
AISS-UFOB-779-57
D10-UFOB-2-57

PAGE 8 OF 12 PAGES
PART ONE

Part One, Fig Four:
SOURCE's Sky Diagram of
subject UFOB sightings.



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1 OCT 57
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12

SUPPLEMENT TO AF FORM 112

ORIGINATING AGENCY

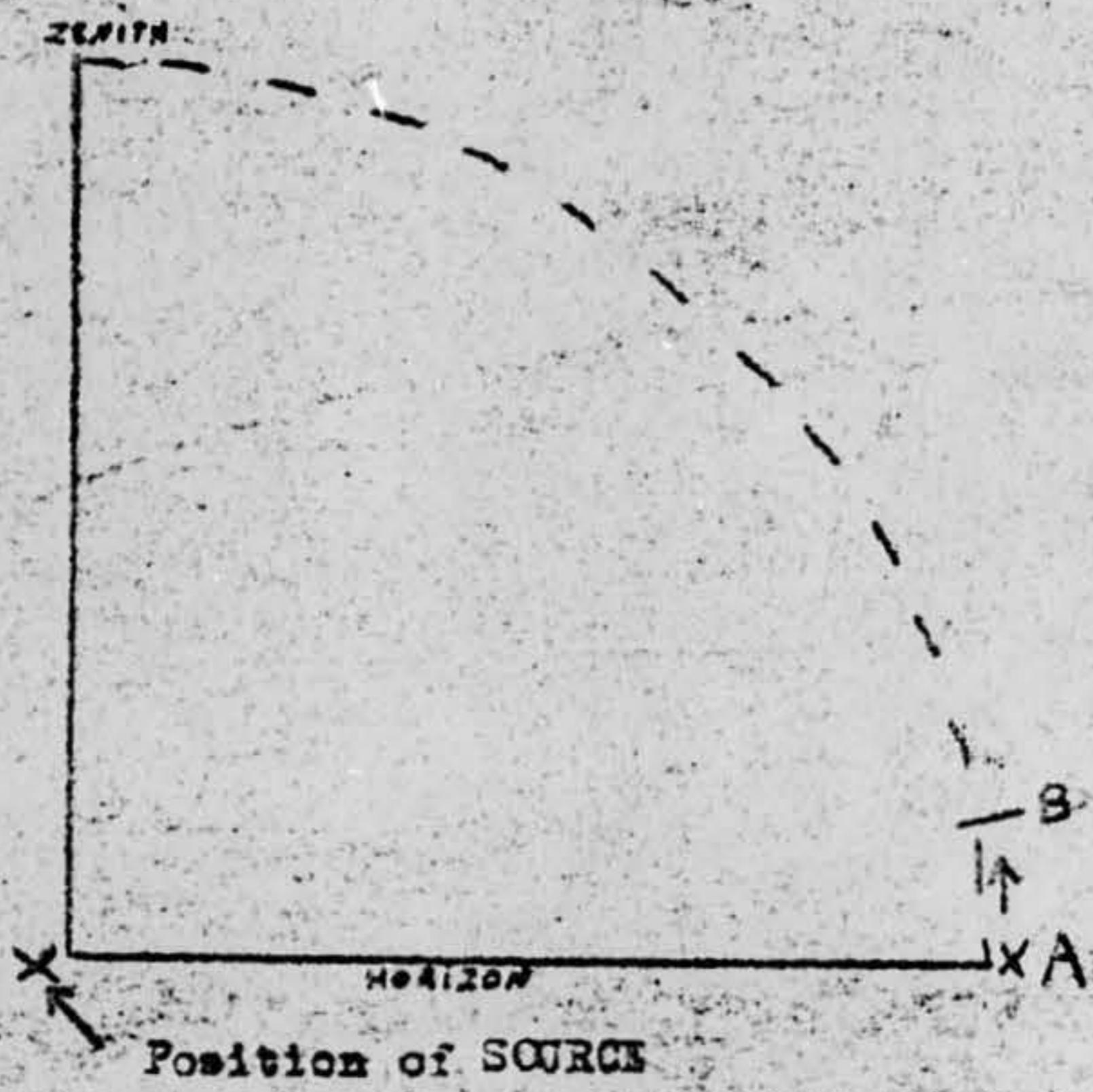
Attachment 10, 1006th AISS

REPORT NO.

A1SS-UFOB-779-57
D10-UFOB-2-57

PAGE 9 OF 12 PAGES
PART ONE

Part One, Fig Five:
SOURCE's Memory Sketch, unretouched,
showing elevation of subject UFOBs
above horizon at time of last
observation.



A - Position of Objects at initial Sighting

B - Elevation of Objects at Time of Disappearance

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100 YEARS
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INTERFERED

FORM 112—PART II
REVISED JUNE 1948

AIR INTELLIGENCE INFORMATION REPORT

Detachment 10, 1006th ATSS

REPORT NO. 11
A1SS-UFOB-779-57
MO-UFOB-2-57

PART THREE

PAGE 12 OF 12 PAGES

2. SOURCE regretted the fact that he had no file in his camera and that he did not make a closer investigation of the observation on the spot or that he did not note the exact spot of sighting on a road map or mark the spot on the road for later reference.

7-3. Judging only by the description of the sighting and its circumstances, the investigator does not believe that the incident was due to misinterpretation of any natural or man-made phenomena. Not a valid sighting under Circumstances.

Based again on the same information, it is the investigator's belief that the entire story may be of complete manufacture by SOURCE although the latter never showed any signs of "acting."

5. The investigator was able to ascertain that SOURCE was not unfamiliar with science fiction literature of a "higher" type. SOURCE did not deny knowledge of such authors as Leinster, Bradbury, Heinlein, Sturgeon, Asimov, etc.

6. SOURCE's motives for possibly manufacturing such a story remain mere conjecture to the investigator.

William Brewster Jr. Esq.
for BENJAMIN C. KENYON JR.
Captain, USAF
Commander

COMMITTEE OF THE APPROVING OFFICER:

1. In the opinion of the Approving Officer, SOURCE's reliability cannot readily be questioned for the following reasons:

... a. SOURCE's Commander and Adjutant "spoke favorably of SOURCE's ability as fighter pilot and of his character."

b. The Preparing Officer states: "SOURCE's motives for possibly man-
ufacturing such a story remain mere conjecture to the investigator." The Approving
Officer shares this opinion. (See Analyst's Opinions regarding possible
motives.)

Therefore, in view of the above, the Approving Officer forwards this
ignoramus "Unknown."

JOHN W MEADOR
Colonel, USAF
Commander

DOMINI RERUM AETATIS TERTII DE DECIMI VICESIMA
DECLARANDI FREDERICI ET MARCI
DEO CIP. 1591.

RECORDED

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		BOOK	MULTI	SINGLE <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			
INFO							
FROM:	COMDR ATIC					40X	SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS
TO:	COMDR, 4935TH A.B. SQ., INDIAN SPRINGS AFB, INDIAN SPRINGS, NEVADA						
FROM:	AFCIN-4E4					1d 40090	RS WFKD

REQUEST ANY INFORMATION REGARDING ANY TEST AIRCRAFT OR FLIGHTS, HELICOPTER OPERATIONS OR ANY OTHER ACTIVITIES WHICH COULD ACCOUNT FOR ALLEGED CLAIM BY USAF OFFICER OF FOUR UNUSUAL DISC-SHAPED VEHICLES OBSERVED ON MORNING OF 23 NOVEMBER 57, APPROXIMATELY 30 MILES WEST OF TONOPAH. ALSO REQUEST CHECK BE MADE OF KNOWN RADAR AND OTHER UNITS IN THAT AREA, IF ANYTHING UNUSUAL REPORTED AT THAT GENERAL TIME. IN REPLY REFER TO AFCIN-4E4.

ENCODED

Initials *P*
 Time *090039*
 Checked By *RC*

COORDINATION

AFCIN-4E4 *H.A. Miley* DATE *28 Jun 58*
 Dr. H.A. Miley

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 DOWNGRADED AT 10 YEAR INTERVALS;
 DOWNGRADED AFTER 30 YEARS.
 DOWNGRADE DUE 0200-10

Page 1 of 1 Pages
 Cy 1 of 3 Cys

DATE 28	TIME 1415
MONTH JAN	YEAR 58

WRITER	SYMBOL	SIGNATURE		
	AFCIN-4E4	<i>Wallace W. Elwood</i>		
WRITER	TYPED NAME AND TITLE (Signature, if required)			RELEASER
	Capt G.T. Gregory			TYPED (or stamped) NAME AND TITLE
PHONE	69216	PAGE NR. 1	NR. OF PAGES 1	WALLACE W. ELWOOD Capt, USAF Adjutant
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DECLASSIFICATION

DATE DUE FOR RETURN

13

SUPPLEMENT TO AF FORM 112

ORIGINATING AGENCY

Detachment 10, 1006th AISS

REPORT NO.

AISS-UFOB-779-57
DIO-UFOB-2-57

PAGE 10 OF 12

PART TWO

PAGES

SUPPLEMENTARY INVESTIGATIVE EFFORTS:

Agencies, such as flight service centers, air traffic control centers, weather stations, astronomical observatories, etc. were not contacted because of their inaccessibility to the investigator owing to the distance of the investigating field unit from the point of sighting.

21

This type of check and investigation should have been a must in this investigation.

The preparers of this report went into great and elaborate lengths to interrogate the source and obtain his story and opinions in minute detail. yet nothing was done to see if any test, experimental or other type of aerial operations may have been conducted in the area, such as would involve Helicopters, new design aircraft, etc. Any of these could have landed on the desert, and could have looked odd to a person who had be driving at night.

The investigators have broke a cardinal rule for complete investigation: ^{not} Checking self facilities as presented by para 5, AFM 200-2

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14

SUPPLEMENT TO AF FORM 112

ORIGINATING AGENCY

Detachment 10, 1006th AISS

REPORT NO.

AISS-UFOB-779-57
D10-UFOB-2-57

PAGE 11 OF 12

PAGES

COMMENTS OF PREPARING OFFICER:

1a. Considering the excellent weather conditions and the circumstances surrounding the sighting as well as the physical phenomena involved, SOURCE concluded that the objects were "not of this Earth". He shared with his C.O. the opinion that in all of the expanse of the universe it is possible that other forms of intelligence exist and that they may be well advanced in technology beyond human comprehension. He assumed further that such intelligent beings would attempt to avoid human contact for perhaps a multitude of reasons. SOURCE concluded further that the objects could not have been any of the following for reasons indicated below:

a. He stated that they could not have been any known or common aerial vehicles (dirigibles, balloons, aircraft, helicopters, missiles, etc.) because he saw the objects clearly and is familiar with airframes of this sort.

b. He did not believe that they were U.S. experimental models because he doubted that flight tests would be conducted with four (4) prototypes at a time and in uncontrolled areas such as the vicinity in which the sighting was made. He ruled out the possibility of a forced landing of such experimental models because their movement indicated that they could maneuver and could have landed just as easily at a spot not visible from the road.

c. SOURCE ruled out the possibility that the objects belonged to another Earth power attempting to spy on the U.S. by means of these vehicles due to the fact that there was nothing important to gain from an investigation at the location of the sighting.

d. SOURCE did not believe that they were experimental models of a foreign nation because none would want to take a chance on an experimental model of such revolutionary design and propulsion crashing where it might reveal all of these advances to another power.

e. He also concluded that attempts by any country to conceal anything as revolutionary as this for so many years ("ever since UFOB sightings began") would be unsuccessful. "Something is bound to leak out."

f. SOURCE did not believe that the objects were freak reflections in the air because they had left slight impressions in the desert sand.

g. He ruled out misinterpretation of other weather phenomena because weather, light, and visibility were excellent at time of sighting.

h. SOURCE stated that the only physical evidence other than the noted impressions in the sand and the whining noise was the fact that his automobile engine had stopped completely. (He failed to check his lights or horn). He assumed that this was due to electro-magnetic forces which might be the means of propulsion for the objects. "That alone makes me believe that they were space ships, because we would have some hint if we were able to do such a thing."

(A certain amount of hesitancy on the part of SOURCE had to be overcome by the investigator to extract SOURCE's reasoning indicated above.)

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SUPPLEMENT TO AF FORM 112

ORIGINATING AGENCY

Detachment 10, 1006th AISS

REPORT NO.

AISS-UFOB-779-57
D10-UFOB-2-57

PAGE 11 OF 12 PAGES

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(A certain amount of hesitancy on the part of SOURCE had to be overcome by the investigator to extract SOURCE's reasoning indicated above.)

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SUPPLEMENT TO AF FORM 112

ORIGINATING AGENCY

Detachment 10, 1006th AISS

REPORT NO.

AISS-UFOB-779-57
D10-UFOB-2-57PAGE 10 OF 12 PAGES
PART TWO

SUPPLEMENTARY INVESTIGATIVE EFFORTS:

Agencies, such as flight service centers, air traffic control centers, weather stations, astronomical observatories, etc. were not contacted because of their inaccessibility to the investigator owing to the distance of the investigating field unit from the point of sighting.

21

This type of check and investigation should have been a must in this investigation.

The preparers of this report went into great and elaborate lengths to interrogate the source and obtain his story and opinions in minute detail yet nothing was done to see if any test, experimental or other type of aerial operations may have been conducted in the area such as would involve helicopters, new design aircraft, etc. Any of these could have landed on the desert, and would have looked odd to a person who had be driving at night.

The investigators have broke a cardinal rule for complete investigation: not checking self facilities as prescuted by para 5, AFM 300-2

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AF FORM 1 OCT 52 112a

REPLACES AF FORM 112-PART II WHICH MAY BE USED.

Will send TAC asking for check.

23

11 February 1958

UFO Case File - Incident, 23 Nov 57 - Tonopah, Nevada
Principal - 1st Lt Joseph F. Long - AO 3028640

Analyst's Comments Regarding Possible Reasons for Source Manufacturing Story (Ref 1B*, p. 12, of IR)

1. Officer has reserve status. Will be eligible for discharge in near future.
2. His academic training and education appears to be speech, dramatics, etc. for TV work.
3. It is assumed that upon completion of his prescribed "Reserve Tour" he will associate himself with TV work - either as a writer, editor, commentator, etc.
4. If he has kept his thumb on TV's pulse, he knows the great public interest in "flying saucers" and "UFOs" - and the number of TV presentations on this subject.
5. Interrogation brought out that he is familiar with names of prominent "saucer" and science fiction writers, authors which the average reader would not know. The arguments that source gave on page 11 of IR are almost word for word argument given by a number of these authors regarding "flying saucers" or their attempts to prove that they are not earth-made vehicles.
6. SOURCE is therefore not considered to be unaware of the lucrative opportunity and the sensational interest in his suddenly appearing on a TV presentation as a commentator or observer (a la Kenneth Arnold), as a writer of a "flying saucer" eye-witness first person story, or as guest lecturer or star for Keyhoe, Davidson's or other TV programs. He cannot be totally unaware that there would be no better way to enter his chosen civilian profession than with the dramatic announcement that he is the only unimpeachable, completely reliable person, a qualified observer, an Air Force pilot, to have seen and made an actually near contact with flying saucers - recently discharged from the service, et. etc.---
7. Therefore there may be other motives for SOURCE manufacturing such a story, but on the basis of the above known facts, this is one motive that cannot be disregarded. Investigators broke a cardinal rule in handling this case (see page 10, of IR): although they went to great length and pains to interrogate source and obtain detailed statements and opinions, not a single check was made of all local facilities to determine if any aircraft or operations were in the area at that time, as prescribed by par 5, AFR 200-2.

George T. Gregory
G. T. GREGORY
Captain, USAF
4 February 1958

Request for Psychological Analysis - UFO
Sighting by USAF Pilot

AFCIN-4B

ATTN: Mr. Whitcher

AFCIN-4E/Capt Gregory/OTG

1. Request that a review and analysis, from the psychological point of view, be made of UFO data and statements attached herewith. It is desired that this be accomplished through the established facilities of Project Stork, and a report of the results be forwarded to this office as expeditiously as possible.

2. It is strongly recommended that Dr. Paul M. Fitts, Department of Psychology of Ohio State University, perform the required review and analysis. Dr. Fitts has wide experience in this particular field, having performed 212 psychological analyses of UFO sightings, as well as having prepared a special report on the subject for the Air Force.

3. For the sake of expediency, and in accordance with your suggestions informally discussed between your office and Captain Gregory, it is recommended that the attached letter of request to Dr. Fitts be hand-carried to Project Stork during the courier runs to Columbus, Ohio.

4. Funding for the proposed consultation services shall be obtained from Contract No. PCS 25, and it is not contemplated that the contract services will exceed eight hours of work.

5. The matter will require discreet handling. The fact that an Air Force pilot insisting and officially testifying that he walked up to, and observed "four flying-saucers" at close-hand, following immediately on the heels of a nation-wide TV presentation to the effect that after a decade of searching, the Air Force has yet to prove the existence of one, would, if unwittingly released to the press or public, undoubtedly result in immediate and violent repercussions to the embarrassment of the Air Force. It is for this reason that all avenues and aspects be explored, before such drastic measures as a lie-detector test be given consideration.

UNCLASSIFIED

Request for Psychological Analysis - UFO
Sighting by USAF Pilot

AFCIN-4E3
ATTN: Mr. Whitcher

AFCIN-4E4

4 February 58
4E4/Capt G.T. Gregory/wm
69216

1. Request that a review and analysis, from the psychological point of view, be made of UFO data and statements attached herewith. It is desired that this be accomplished through the established facilities of Project White Stork, and a report of the results be forwarded to this office as expeditiously as possible.

2. It is strongly recommended that Dr. Paul M. Fitts, Department of Psychology of Ohio State University, perform the required review and analysis. Dr. Fitts has wide experience in this particular field, having performed 212 psychological analyses of UFO sightings, as well as having prepared a special report on the subject for the Air Force.

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1 Incl
Ltr to Dr. Fitts
w/incl as stated
in ltr

H. K. GILBERT
Colonel, USAF
AFCIN4E

Ltr to Dr. Fitts, attached.

Will be hand-carried to Dr. Fitts
by Mr. Simpson, a member of "Stork" staff
(679)

DECLASSIFICATION BY 20 YEARS INTERVALS:
10 YEARS
5 YEARS
10 YEARS
5 YEARS
10 YEARS
5 YEARS

REF ID: A620.10

Page 1 of 1 Pages

Copy 3 of 3 Cys

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SQH9140 SQA119 XYA219FAA003

RR RJEDSQ

DE RJWPFA 2

R 171300Z

FM COMDR 4935TH AB SQ

TO COMDR ATIC

BT

/UNCLAS/ SWSIG-4-151-58. REFERENCE YOUR CLASSIFIED MESSAGE
AFCIN-4E4 IC-40327, DTD 20 MAR 58. CHECKS WITH RADAR UNITS IN THIS
AREA MET WITH NEGATIVE RESULTS. THIS INSTALLATION HAS NO
FUTHER INFORMATION, THEREFORE WE ARE CLOSING OUT OUR RECORDS IN
THIS MATTER.

BT

17/1405Z APR RJWPFA

*Atic this is the result of the 2nd query
by ATIC. ATIC didn't specify if it was a
radar check - but a physical check
any info, whether or not
activities were in the area. It
turns out as simple as it can get
there is no info. The last msg from ATIC was ignored.*